

INFORMATION SHEET

THE FULBRIGHT JUNIOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FOR FRANCOPHONE AND LUSOPHONE AFRICA (LFJSD or JSDEP)

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Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

What is this program?

This is a program specially designed for graduating 4th year university students or recent university graduates who have good English skills but who are not sufficiently fluent in English to pursue full-time graduate study in the U.S. The program allows such students to go to the U.S. for up to eight (8) months of intensive English language training and to then seek admission to a Master (MA) degree program in the United States under the Fulbright Junior Staff Development Program (JSDP). If admitted to a graduate degree program, the student has up to two years to obtain his or her Master's degree. Funding for both the intensive English language training and the Master **Degree** program is provided by the Government of the United States of America through the U.S. Department of State.

What kinds of people are eligible to apply?

Any person who is currently affiliated with and who is committed to continue working either at an **academic institution of higher education**, or at a **public or private educational, cultural, or professional institution** in their home country upon completion of their program.

What are the minimum requirements?

Only persons who meet the following minimum requirements can apply through the American Center in Ouagadougou:

- Citizens or permanent residents of Burkina Faso who are qualified to hold a valid passport issued by Burkina Faso;
- Persons who have or will have by the **August 2015** a university degree awarded after at least four years of full-time study that is sufficient to qualify the person to be admitted to a graduate study program at a university in the U.S.;
- Persons who have the endorsement of their home institution; and
- Persons who have good written and spoken English.

Who are the most competitive applicants?

Anyone meeting the minimum requirements may apply. However, people who have the

following characteristics are the most competitive applicants and therefore the ones most likely to be selected:

- Persons who are complying with Burkina Faso Development Goals “SCADD” the Strategy for Accelerated Growth for Sustainable Development.
- 4th-year students who recently graduated or who will graduate before **the end of 2016** from an institution of higher education in Burkina Faso;
- Persons who wish to pursue a Masters (MA) degree in fields that are underrepresented by University of Ouagadougou faculty or in new topic areas;
- Persons who have outstanding academic records, references, and academic preparation in their fields; and
- Persons who have not previously studied in the U.S.
- Persons who show some commitment to community service and citizenship

Applications from women is encouraged

What kinds of people are not eligible?

The following are examples of persons who are **not** eligible for this program:

- Persons who have already received a bachelor's or master's degree in the U.S.;
- Persons who have participated in a Fulbright program within the past three years;
- Persons wishing to pursue PH.D or Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degrees;
- Persons wishing to pursue Masters degrees or other study programs in English, Teaching English as a Foreign Language, Linguistics, or English Literature; and
- Persons who cannot score at least 500 on the TOEFL before starting intensive English language training in the U.S.

If I am eligible and meet the minimum requirements, how do I apply?

- You must complete a package of application materials. **Application is available on the U.S. embassy web site <http://ouagadougou.usembassy.gov/> from December 01 2015, to January 29, 2016.**
- **Application forms must be completed and returned to the American Embassy, Service CAC by January 29, 2015.**

How does the competition work?

- **In February and March** candidates selected by the American Embassy will take the TELP test and will be interviewed. After the interviews, those candidates selected to continue in the competition will register for TOEFL that will be taken in Ouagadougou in **April 2016** and GRE in **October 2016**. The finalists must also fill out the online application and provide additional application materials

(letters of reference, degrees and academic transcripts (in French and English) **to the American Embassy by September 02, 2016.**

- **Finalists from Burkina Faso then compete against applicants from other sub-Saharan African countries, and the winners will be announced in late-2016 or early 2017.**

Please do not call to find out if you have been selected to be interviewed. If you have been selected, we will contact you by telephone or e-mail to schedule your interview. If you are not contacted by mid March this means that you were not selected to participate in the competition.

What if I am not a citizen or permanent resident of Burkina Faso?

If you are not a citizen or permanent resident of Burkina Faso you cannot apply for this program through the U.S. Embassy in Ouagadougou. You should contact the Public Affairs Section in the U.S. Embassy in your home country to find out whether your country participates in this program, and, if so, how to apply.

When will I go to the United States if I am selected?

The current competition is for English-language training commencing in the U.S. as early as **January of 2017** and continuing through **mid-August 2017** with the expectation that participants will then be placed in Masters Degree programs beginning in **August and September 2017.**

If I am selected can my spouse or children come with me to the U.S.?

No.

How do I get more information?

Application form is on our web site: <http://ouagadougou.usembassy.gov>

*If you have questions, the American embassy at Ouaga 2000, Ouagadougou will host information sessions every **Wednesday from 10:00 am to 11:00, beginning Wednesday, December 02, 2015 through January 27, 2015.** (For security reason, please be at the embassy before 9:30. Come with your identity card, cell phone and lap tops and electronic devices are not allowed in the embassy.)*